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Message Text

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53
ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

SIL-01 LAB-06 OMB-01 RSR-01 /090 W
---------- 100861
R 181000 Z MAY 73
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3989

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E. O. 11652: N/ A
TAGS: PINT JA
SUBJ: DIET IMPASSE CONTINUES THROUGH MAY 18

REF TOKYO 6164

SUMMARY: OPPOSITION PARTIES CONTINUE TO BOYCOTT DIET AND REFUSE TO AGREE TO CONTINUATION OF DIET SESSION MAY 18 DESPITE GOJ DECISION TO DEFER SUBMISSION OF ELECTORAL REFORM BILL, THUS MAKING MORE PROBABLE LDP DECISION TO FORCE VOTE OVER WEEKEND ON BASIS OWN MAJORITY. END SUMMARY.

1. OPPOSITION PARTIES NOT SATISFIED WITH GOJ CABINET DECISION TO DEFER ELECTORAL REFORM BILL TO CURRENT SESSION CONTINUED TO BOYCOTT DIET MAY 18. AS OF FRIDAY EVENING LDP UNABLE TO PERSUADE OPPOSITION PARTY MEMBERS IN LOWER HOUSE STEERING COMMITTEE AND DIET POLICY COMMITTEE TO AGREE TO NORMALIZE PROCEEDINGS TO PAVE WAY FOR ORDERLY DIET VOTE ON EXTENSION OF SESSION DUE TO EXPIRE SUNDAY.

2. ADAMANT STAND BY OPPOSITION FORESHADOWED BY STRONG STATEMENT ISSUED JOINTLY LATE LAST EVENING BY ALL FOUR OPPOSITION PARTY DIED POLICY COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN, DEMANDING THAT PRIMIN TANAKA HALT ACTION
ON ELECTORAL REFORM BILL INCLUDING
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DISSOLUTION OF ELECTORAL DISTRICT REDISTRICTING COMMITTEE.
STATEMENT ALSO SOUGHT TO PLACE RESPONSIBITITY FOR DIET BOYCOTT
ON HOME AFFAIRS MINISTER MASUMI ESAKI FOR HIS STATEMENT IN DIET
LAST FRIDAY THAT GOJ WOULD SUBMIT PUBLIC OFFICIAL ELECTION
LAW REVISION BILL TO CURRENT DIET BEFORE EXPIRATION MAY 2#,
AND MAP SHOWING NEW DISTRICTS AFTER EXTENSION.

3. CHIEF CABINET SECRETARY SUSUMU NIKAIDO INFORMED PRESS LATE
THURSDAY THAT GOJ WOUTD NOT OBJECT TO DISSOLUTION, SHOULD
COMMITTEE ITSELF DECIDE TO DISBAND. MEANWHILE, SEVEN MEMBER
COMMITTEE POSTPONED THIRD SESSION SCHEDULED TODAY, AS ONE MEMBER
RESIGNED AND ANOTHER INDICATED INTENT TO DO SO.

4. LDP MEMBERS OF LOWER HOUSE STEERING COMMITTEE BELIEVE THAT
PARTY NOW HAS NO OTHER CHOICE BUT TO VOTE
ITS MAJORITY AND THUS FORCE THROUGH EXTENSION OF DIET OVER
WEEKEND. THEY WARY, HOWEVER, OF DOING THIS FRIDAY EVENING
BECAUSE JSP/ JCP/ KOMEITO AND LABOR UNIONS ARE SCHEDULED TO
HOLD RALLY PROTESTING ELECTORAL REFORM FOLLOWED BY DEMONSTRATION
PARADE PAST DIET. EVENING MAY 15 SATE UMBRELLA- ORGANIZATION
STAGED RALLY AND THREE HOUR PARADE BY ABOUT 50,000 DEMONSTRATORS.
INGERSOLL

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a
*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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